Plan for rural and urban areas

†1115. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07, the Centre funded schemes for the development of rural and urban areas have been implemented;

(b) if so, the number of such schemes and the amount allotted for the implementation of these schemes each year;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to make reduction in these projects; and

(d) if so, the outline of the proposal and what is the need for consideration over this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The details of schemes for the development of rural and urban areas implemented during 2005-06 and 2006-07 are available in the Outcome Budget and Performance Budget documents pertaining to 2005-06 and 2006-07 of the Ministries/ Departments.

(c) and (d) Some Plan Schemes are discontinued on the basis of Zero Based Budgeting (ZBB) exercise and rationalization of Plan Schemes during the course of a Plan. The primary purpose of ZBB exercise is to ensure convergence, efficiency and efficacy of schemes according to Plan priorities and targets and also the use of available resources in the most judicious and economically efficient manner.

Development of infrastructure

†1116. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to develop the infrastructural facilities in the country to get more than 8 per cent growth rate in the country in the coming years;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the sectors Government have selected as on date for the purpose; and

(d) whether Government have made any assessment of the expenditure amount for the coming five years for the development of each and every sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Government has constituted a Committee on Infrastructure in August, 2004 under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister with the objective of initiating policies that would create world class infrastructure; developing structures that maximize the role of Public Private Partnership in the field of infrastructure; and monitoring progress of key infrastructure projects to ensure that established targets are realized. The Committee includes the Finance Minister, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission and the Ministers in-charge of the respective infrastructure Ministries. The Committee so far has held thirteen meetings and have articulated policies and action plans for highways, railways, port, airports and power. The programmes and policies approved by this Committee have since been taken up for implementation by the respective Ministries.

An Empowered Sub Committee of the CoI under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission has also been set up to, *inter alia*, monitor and follow up on implementation of the decisions of the CoI.

The Government have also launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in December, 2005 for upgradation of urban infrastructure facilities in the country.

Government have also announced Bharat Nirman for building rural infrastructure over a period of four years (2005-09). Bharat Nirman comprises six components namely, irrigation, road, water supply, housing, rural electrification and rural telecom connectivity. The Committee on Rural Infrastructure under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister is monitoring the implementation of Bharat Nirman.

(d) The Plan Estimates for different infrastructure sectors for the Eleventh Plan are being examined by the various Steering Committees/Working Groups set up by the Planning Commission for this purpose.